

THSMF FAMILY TIMES



HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Patient Rights:

Patient rights as outlined in the Patient and Family Handbook are listed below. Each month one or more of the rights will be discussed in more detail.

- Civil and Legal Rights
- Informed Regarding Rights*
- Due Process*
- Complaints*
- Education
- Safe and Humane Environment*
- Privacy/Confidentiality
- Protection from Harm*
- Personal Possessions
- Communication and Social Contacts
- Religion
- Confidentiality of Records
- Labor
- Disclosure of Services Available*
- Quality Treatment*
- Individualized Treatment*
- Participation in Treatment
- Least Restrictive Conditions*
- Participation in Research and Experimentation*
- Informed Consent

¹ Rights identified with an * are afforded by Federal and State laws and cannot be restricted/limited under any circumstance.

Patient Responsibilities:

Patient responsibilities include:

- To provide, to the best of your knowledge, accurate and complete information regarding your medical and psychiatric history including present and past illnesses, medications, hospitalizations, etc.
- To be responsible for your actions should you refuse treatment or do not follow instructions of Mental Health Professionals.
- To be familiar with and follow rules and regulations governing your care and conduct.
- To attend scheduled activities and keep appointments.
- To be considerate of the rights and privacy of others patients and staff.
- To engage in appropriate and respectful communication with others.
- To be respectful of the property of others and of the facility.
- To take an active part in planning for your treatment program and discharge planning.
- To ask questions when you do not understand instructions, treatment, financial commitments, etc.
- To help take care of and clean up your immediate living area.
- To help keep yourself clean and dressed.
- To obey the laws which apply to all citizens.
- To report potentially dangerous situations to staff members.

**Patient Advocates at THSMF are Julie Hinson and
Brandon Heath.**

THSMF's main telephone number is 205-462-4500. You may choose to use the automated system in which you select a number for the department and then staff member you want to speak to. If you have a question related to treatment progress, Treatment Team meetings, visitation, etc. and want to speak with the social worker, you may call directly as listed below:

- Lori Ellard, Director of Social Work 205-462-4650
- Laci Jones, Placement Coordinator 205-462-4652
- Sarah Garner, ACE Program 205-462-4656
- Gabrielle Franklin, BEST/CARE Program 205-462-4651
- Jessica Hanby, BEST Program 205-462-4658
- April Deslattes, CARE Program 205-462-4657
- Melinda Bennett, CARE Program, 205-462-4659
- Brittney McCreary, DREAM Program, 205-462-4655



**PLEASE UNDERSTAND WE CAN ONLY RELEASE
INFORMATION WITH PROPER CONSENT.**

Please leave a voice mail if we are out of the office and we will return your call as soon as possible.

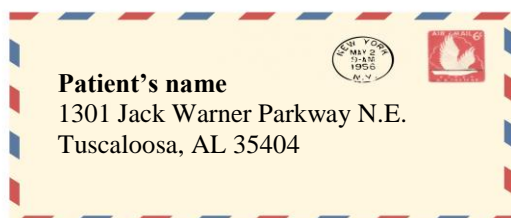
Family Education classes meet from 10 – 11:30 a.m. on the 3rd Friday in February, March, May, June, August, September, and November. The Advocacy Meeting is held in January, April, July, and October at the same time. Visitation begins at 11:30AM for those attending the meetings.

Our Family Education Class is all about providing education and support to you – our families. We want you to feel comfortable to come to class, to ask questions or to just sit quietly and listen. We use different tools (handouts, videos, discussion) during the classes to provide the best learning environment. We want to help you learn more about mental health and THSMF.

Sending Mail?

THSMF patients may not receive packages from family/friends, etc. Family members/friends, etc. may send money (**check or money order only**) to your loved one (relative only) and they may purchase canteen items or request to purchase items allowed on their program through THSMF staff. **Cash will not be accepted via mail. Please speak with the social worker if you have questions.** Any packages received will be returned and/or placed in the patient's personal possessions.

When sending mail, please make sure to put your loved one's name on the envelope.



If you have any questions or concerns about your loved one's care & treatment, safety, or a medical condition that may require immediate assessment or care, please let staff know immediately.



Have a question or comment about the newsletter? Contact Lori Ellard, LICSW by phone at 205-462-4650 or by email at Lori.Ellard@hardin.mh.alabama.gov



Visitation Reminders:

- All visitors must be pre-approved.
- One drink item and one food item only and both items must be purchased from the THSMF vending machines.
- Bring pictured identification if over the age of 16.
- No cell phones, umbrellas, coats, bags, tobacco products, weapons, or lighters are allowed.
- You will be asked to clear the metal detector prior to entering the visitation area
- Once entering the visitation area, you will not be allowed to exit and re-enter.
- Special visits must be requested at least seven days in advance of the desired visit date.

Your comments are important to us. Next time you visit, please take a few moments to fill out a "Family/Friend Questionnaire." The questionnaires are on yellow paper and are kept in a wood holder in our lobby. If you need assistance locating one, let us know and we will help you out. The questionnaire has twelve questions and will only take a few minutes to complete. Your feedback helps us to improve on what we do and how we do it.

Passing unacceptable items to a patient at Taylor Hardin is "promoting contraband", and can be illegal, just as it would be in jail. Unacceptable items include tobacco, tobacco products, cash, lighters, medications, street drugs, money (including coins), pens and other sharp items, alcohol, cell phones, and anything else labeled as contraband.

Any visitor who assists or attempts to assist in escape plans, schemes for creating disorder, or passes or attempts to pass any unacceptable item will not be allowed further visits and **will be subject to criminal action.**